

three narrowing circles about the schooner preparatory to alighting, which it soon did in a dazed and somewhat exhausted condition. I caught the bird in my hands, and on examination I found it to be literally nothing but skin and bones. However, we were loath to take its life and accordingly improvised a cage on the bottom of which was placed a quantity of small pieces of rock from the ship's ballast. No sooner had our captive been placed in the cage than it began to flip these stones over with its beak, in search of its usual quarry. A dish containing salt water was placed within reach. After taking a few swallows, it proceeded to toss stones and loose bits into the receptacle with its beak, and then, for want of something better to do, it waded in and tossed them out again. Fresh water it did not seem to care for at all. We were at a loss to know what we could offer the bird from the ship's store that it would be liable to eat. Lobster, being shell-fish, was first tried. Of this the bird would only take bits in its bill when it would note an unusual flavor, and condemn it as food. Bits of oyster were tried and similarly rejected. Tinned clam, roast meat, and fresh fish were refused. Boiled rice and other cereals were offered without avail. Finally cockroaches, which were the only insect pest on shipboard, were suggested and tried. It was interesting to watch the Turnstone assault them. The bug, which is an adept at self concealment, would no sooner strike the bottom of the cage than it would scurry under a stone. The bright-eyed bird would give instant chase, roll the stone to one side and snap up the bug. Then beating it vigorously on the ground several times, it would lay it down and observe it narrowly. Taking it up again and giving it a final thrash or two it proceeded to gulp it down. Cockroaches were evidently not suitable food, for on the second morning after its capture the bird was found dead.

I made it into a skin, which bears a tag stating that it was an adult male, taken on the date and in the locality mentioned, in full autumn plumage, measuring 9.30 in. in length; wing, 6.05 in.; culmen, .85 in.; tarsus .95 in.

At the time the Turnstone came on board we were some 500 miles to the north and east of Midway Island, which was the probable destination of the bird (and where we had observed the same species only a few days previously). Assuming the bird had started from Alaska on its fall southerly migration it was at the time of its capture 1800 miles out from the nearest land, and must have been in continuous flight for more than 40 hours before it sighted our vessel. The fact that it was alone was unusual, as the species commonly migrates in small flocks, of which we saw quite a number while we were performing our journey of over 7000 miles in the Mid-Pacific.—WM. ALANSON BRYAN, *Bishop Museum, Honolulu, H. I.*

Nesting of the Goshawk in Southern New Hampshire.—On the 21st of July, 1902, I came upon a large *Accipiter* in a clearing in some woods

at Alstead, N. H. The bird screamed loudly and when I began to search for a nest, flew at me twice like a bolt, so that I instinctively put up an elbow to guard my head. I found a nest containing two nearly full-grown young in a smallish pine about forty feet from the ground. On the 27th I saw at 4.45 A. M. a full-grown Goshawk kill and begin to devour a pullet under the window of the farm-house where I lived. I therefore on the 29th shot one of the young hawks from the nest and sent it to Mr. Brewster, who has identified it as a young Goshawk (*Accipiter atricapillus*). Alstead is seventeen miles from Keene, in southern New Hampshire. According to Mr. G. M. Allen this is the most southern breeding record which he can find for this bird in New England. —RALPH HOFFMANN, *Belmont, Mass.*

Barn Owl on Long Island, N. Y.—On April 23, 1902, Mr. James Forster, Superintendent on Harbeck Place at Islip, L. I., sent me a fine adult American Barn Owl (*Strix pratincola*) to be mounted. The bird was in fine plumage but rather thin in flesh. No further data could be obtained, as Mr. Forster moved away shortly after. —HENRY MOTT BURTIS, *Babylon, L. I.*

The Short-eared Owl (*Asio accipitrinus*) Taken Far Out at Sea.—The steamer 'Tampico,' which plies between Honolulu and Puget Sound, was boarded, when 680 miles off the mainland, by a Short-eared Owl which had in all probability been lured out to sea in pursuit of shore birds which at this season are in full migration, and, losing its bearings, became a wanderer at the mercy of the high seas. The bird was observed by the mate at 8 P. M. circling about high overhead. After a time it alighted on one of the yards and there remained during the night and the greater part of the following forenoon, when it was captured and placed in a cage. Capt. Ames, regarding the captive as a mascot, and not an ill omen, decided to keep it alive, and ordered it to be carefully fed on a diet of raw meat. Despite all care and attention it died Oct. 10, 1902, one day after the steamer had arrived at Honolulu. Only the wings and feet were preserved. I had the privilege of examining them and, together with the description furnished by the captain, satisfied myself that the bird was none other than an adult *Asio accipitrinus*. The wing measured 12.50, the tarsus about 1.75.

Since it is generally believed that the stock from which the Hawaiian variety of owl was derived came originally from America, the above bit of evidence may be regarded as in a measure confirming that view. Taken in connection with the record of the specimen observed (in October, 1900) by Capt. Johnson of the bark 'Roderick Dhu,' some 500 miles off the Hawaiian Islands, it makes a chain of evidence showing the relationship of the Hawaiian 'Pueo' to the continental form, and at the same time tending strongly to invalidate the subspecies *sandvicensis* of current writers.